

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments, and the following remarks. Claims 10-17 are in the application. Claims 1-9 have been canceled.

Claims 10-17 have been added to more clearly define the invention. Claim 10 corresponds to original claims 1 and 2. Claims 11-17 correspond to original claims 3-9, respectively. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner objected to the drawings and specification, stating that the continuous gap closed by a circumferential collar was not shown or described. Applicant submits that the gap 22 is shown in FIGS. 6 and 7 of the drawings, and that the cooling channel and not the gap is closed off. Claim 10 has been written to clarify this.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Kemnitz in view of Deutschmann et al. Claims 8-9 were rejected as being over Kemnitz in view of Deutschmann et

al. and further in view of Bochart. The Examiner stated that claims 2-7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has written new claim 10 to include the elements of original claims 1 and 2, now canceled. Claims 11-17 all depend from claim 10. Applicant submits that new claims 10-17 are patentable over the cited references, taken either singly or in combination. Early allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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